## May 25, 1993 REPORT TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES WITH LEWIS, D'AMATO, BRISBOIS & BISGAARD

On March 1, 1993, interviews for Redevelopment Agency special legal counsel were held. The interview panel consisted of Randa Trapp, Chair, and Jerome Groomes, President, of the Southeast Economic Development Corporation; Janice Weinrick, Assistant Vice President, of the Centre City Development Corporation; M. Howard Wayne, Secretary, of the Mid-City Development Corporation; Keith Scott, Redevelopment Coordinator, of the Economic Development Program; and Allisyn Thomas, Deputy City Attorney.

Four law firms were interviewed. Following deliberations, the interview panel chose the law firms of Kane, Ballmer and Berkman, currently serving as special legal counsel; and Lewis, D'Amato, Brisbois & Bisgaard.

Lewis, D'Amato, Brisbois & Bisgaard was chosen to provide work for the Agency on an as needed basis in the area of environmental toxics, bankruptcy and other special projects. Their redevelopment department has been formed in the last year and is chaired by Renie L. Campbell, who has been providing legal services to redevelopment agencies since 1979. Although Ms. Campbell is based in Los Angeles, Lewis, D'Amato, Brisbois & Bisgaard has an office in San Diego from which Ms. Campbell will be able to work.

While the Lewis, D'Amato redevelopment department is still quite small, the interview panel believed the Agency would benefit from the combined talents of Ms. Campbell, along with other attorneys in the law firm with experience in real estate, business, environmental litigation, bankruptcy and eminent domain.

Respectfully submitted, JOHN W. WITT City Attorney

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